

Appl. No. 10/602,249  
Amdt. Dated Aug. 27, 2004  
Reply to Office Action of May 27, 2004

### REMARKS

Applicant respectfully appreciates the Examiner's indications of allowabilities of claims 8, 14-17 and 20.

#### ***Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102(e)***

Claims 1-7 and 9-13, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Harasawa et al. (U. S. Patent 6,616,485).

In response to this rejection, applicants have amended independent Claim 1 to contain subject matter which defines over prior art as Examiner stated in this Office Action. By such amendments, applicant believes that amended Claim 1 is now patentable over the cited prior art. Detailed explanations are given below.

Dependent claims 2-3 are canceled without prejudice.

Regarding amended Claim 1, an electrical connector comprises an insulative housing defining a receiving space and a first passageway communicating with the receiving space. An electrical contact received in the first passageway comprises a body portion extending in a longitudinal direction, an opening defined in the body portion along the longitudinal direction, a tab extending upwardly from a longitudinal side wall thereof, and a resilient arm extending upwardly and rearwardly from a front end of the body portion. The resilient arm has a contact portion projecting into the receiving space of the insulative housing and an extension formed at a distal free end of the contact portion. The tab comprises a pressing portion holding the extension of the resilient arm and deflecting the

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**resilient arm toward the body portion when no electronic member inserted into the receiving space.**

Contacts in the FIGS. 1-6 of Harasawa et al are in accordance with a series embodiments of the invention. Since those contacts are substantially similar to each other, the contact shown in the FIG. 6 according to a sixth embodiment of the invention is taken for example, the contact comprises a fixing part 23e, a pair of arms 34e, 35e and an elastic contact member 20e all extending from the fixing part frontwardly. The pair of arms are bent downward at the portion close to the fixing part 23e to form bent parts 24e, 24e'. A protecting part 37e is formed at the connecting portion of these bent parts 24e, 24e'. The contact arm 20e has a contact part 27e and a tip end 29e. **When no electronic member inserted into the housing, the protecting part 37e does not hold the tip end 29e of the contact arm 20e, even that they are separated from each other.** The protecting part 37e *does not perform a pre-pressing function* (Column 7, Lines 2-3).

However as clearly defined in Claim 1 of the present invention, the tab comprises a **pressing portion holding the extension of the resilient arm and deflecting the resilient arm toward the body portion when no electronic member inserted into the receiving space.** It is clear that the structure and the function of the protecting part of Harasawa et al are substantially different to that of the tab of the present invention.

Therefore, independent Claim 1 is believed to be patentable over Harasawa et al.

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Dependent claims 4-7 and 9-13 are also believed to be patentable since they depend, either directly or indirectly, from independent claim 1.

***Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 103(a)***

Claim 19 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cairns et al. (U. S. Patent 3,742,430) in view of Cairns et al (U. S. Patent 4,357,066).

In response to this rejection, applicants have amended independent Claim 19 to incorporate novel limitations of the allowable/objected claim 20 thereto. By such amendments, applicants believe that amended Claim 19 is now patentable over the cited prior art.

Dependent claim 20 is canceled without prejudice.

The newly added claim 21 includes allowable novel limitations of the original claim 14, and is believed to be in condition for allowance.

In view of the above claim amendments and remarks, the subject application is believed to be in a condition for allowance and an action to such effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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